(f) what was the quantity of gold supplied during these months for domestic and export purposes and what were the reasons for not supplying gold as per the requisition;

(g) what remedial measures Government is taking in the matter;

(h) what is the effect of the non-supply of gold by SBI on export of jewellery; and

(i) what are the details of remedial measures taken by Government in order to boost the export of jewellery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (i) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

NRIs suggestion on liberalisation for augumenting their investment in India

896. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NRIs have suggested further liberalisation in the economic fiscal and trade policies and reviewing of FERA regulations to enable them to make adequate investments in India;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereon;

(c) whether Government have offered any other inducements to NRIs for investments in India; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Suggestions for liberalisation are received from NRIs from time to time. These are kept in view while formulating policy.

(c) and (d) Under the liberalised investment policy, NRIs can now invest upto 100 per cent equity in high priority industries with full repatriation benefits. They can also invest in housing, real estate and infrastructure sectors on a repatriation basis. The upper limit on portfolio investment by NRI in Indian companies has also been raised, subject to certain conditions, from 5 per cent to 24 per cent.

विदेशी ऋणों पर अदा की गई ब्याज की राशि

897. **डा० जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :**
श्री रणजीत सिंह :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 15 दिसम्बर, 1991 के "टाइम्स आफ इंडिया" में "इंडिया थर्ड लार्जेस्ट डब्टर : ओ. ई. सी. डी." शीर्षक के अंतर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर आकृष्ट किया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस विदेशी ऋण पर 1980–81, 1985–86 और 1991–92 के वर्षों के दौरान अलग-अलग कितनी ब्याज राशि का भुगतान किया गया है ;

(ग) क्या विदेशी ऋण पर दी जाने वाली ब्याज की दर भिन्न-भिन्न देशों अथवा संस्थाओं के अनुसार अलग-अलग होती है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्याज की न्यूनतम तथा अधिकतम दर कितने प्रतिशत है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामेश्वर ठाकुर) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख) वर्ष 1980–81 और 1985-86 के दौरान विदेशी ऋण पर अदा किए गए ब्याज की राशि क्रमश: 412 करोड़ रुपए और 1592 करोड़ रुपए थी। वर्ष 1991-92 के दौरान अदा किए जाने वाले ब्याज की राशि

5367 करोड़ रुपए होने का अनुमान है ।

(ग) जी, हां ।

(घ) विदेशी ऋण पर ब्याज की दर शून्य प्रतिशत से लेकर 10.6 प्रतिशत तक है ।

Curtailment of inflation and currency in circulation

898. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer the answer to Unstarred Question 115 and 131 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th February, 1992 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had promised IMF that rate of inflation will not cross 9 per cent in 1991-92 and 6 per cent in 1992-93;

(b) if so, what are the details and reasons therefor;

(c) what is the increase in currency circulations during last three years;

(d) what is the total amount of currency in circulation today; and

(e) what are the norms for currency expansion and contraction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) In the memorandum on Economic Policies for 1991-92 and 1992-93 sent to the IMF in August 1991 for a stand-by arrangement with the Fund, inflation (end period) was targetted at 9 per cent for 1991-92 and 6 per cent for 1992-93.

(c) and (d) The amount of currency in circulation and increase in the currency circulation during the last 3 years are as under:—

Currency with public

(Rs. Crores)

1988-89 (March 31 to March 3)	Increase during 1989-90	1990-91	Total amount as on Jan. 24, 1992
4770	7971	6787	60109
(14.2%)	(20.8%)	(14.7%)	

(e) Level of currency with public depends primarily on the volume of transactions people like to make in cash and reflects their preference for cash as against deposits with banks, banking habits and overall monetisation of the economy.

Number of unelectrified villages in Tamil Nadu

899. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of unelectrified villages in Tamil Nadu, district-wise;

(b) what is the number of villages in Tamil Nadu which have been electrified during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92; and

(c) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) As per available information, only 16 villages (1981 Census) are yet to be electrified as on 31-3-91 in Tamil Nadu, of which 9 villages are treated as unihabited. The district-wise details of these unelectrified